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IAC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EXCHANGES

Minutes
6 May 1958

Present:
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[REDACTED]
Mr. Gatewood, State
Mr. Uglietta, Army
Lt. Cmdr. Dorr, Navy
Col. Goffer, AFCIN
Cpt. Copas, AFCIN
Mr. Riehl, ATIC
Cpt. Stone, JIG
Mr. Phelps, USIA
Mr. Abrahams, AEC

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[REDACTED]
(for discussion on Crystallography)
(for discussion on Permafrost)
(for discussion on Agriculture)

INTRODUCTION

1. The minutes of the 25 March meeting were approved.

ACTION MATTERS

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1. Crystallography. [REDACTED], Chairman of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee, was present for the discussion. He outlined the Committee's view as a feeling that there was not sufficient interest in the subject to justify demanding reciprocity for intelligence reasons. The ATIC representative said that he did not wish to reopen the case since ATIC had a representative on the Subcommittee but that ATIC would like to see reciprocity because they believe that the US should seize every opportunity for putting scientists in the USSR for an extended period of time. He said that ATIC would be willing to defray the expenses of an acceptable US delegation as reciprocity. It was agreed that the Committee would forward an opinion that there was not sufficient direct intelligence interest to demand reciprocity but that reciprocity would be desirable and financing could be secured.

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2. Permafrost. [redacted] Chairman of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee, was present for the discussion. [redacted] commended the Subcommittee for acting so rapidly on the request from the Committee and questioned whether the interest was based primarily on the geographic areas that would be available or the substantive information. [redacted] said 25X1A9a that the exchange could stand on its substantive merits since the Soviets have done a great deal of work in this field. The size of the delegation was questioned, and after some discussion, it was agreed that the Subcommittee would resurvey [redacted] experts available in an effort to find some that have a command in the Russian language and cover more than one of the very specialized fields in permafrost operations. It was agreed that the proposal was generally regarded as very favorable and that final clearance will be arranged by telephone once the personnel problem is dealt with. In the meantime, Mr. 25X1A9a [redacted] urged participants to consider whether they had sufficient interest to finance any part of the delegation.

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3. Agriculture. [redacted] was present as a representative of the technical consultant for the discussion. [redacted] outlined 25X1A9a the feeling of the substantive experts that it was obvious from the 1955 exchange that the Soviets stood to gain worth-while technical knowledge. If this were to be offset sufficiently to provide for a net gain to the US, a large amount of intelligence must be garnered. 25X1A9a [redacted] added that intelligence from observation is limited, particularly since the agriculture attaches, US Embassy, Moscow, travel widely. He said that it is essential, therefore, that the basic information asked for by the questionnaire presented to the Soviets be secured. He feels that if the present Soviet attitude of refusing this information continues, it is believed that a net loss to the US will ensue and that the exchanges would not be justified from an intelligence viewpoint. [redacted] said that it might be extremely awkward for the Department to back out of the exchanges that were agreed upon so far, but that it might be essential to refuse to make any more agreements unless this information is provided. [redacted] 25X1A9a pointed out that he felt that the intelligence community had an obligation to point out the possibility of a net loss to the US. The Committee agreed that the material prepared by the technical consultant should be forwarded to the Department, and that the assistance of the intelligence community should be offered in planning to secure essential information. It was pointed out that the first exchange of agricultural economists would pretty well determine whether the Soviets intended to provide the detailed information or whether they would continue the same stalling tactics which they applied to the 1955 Agricultural Exchange.

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4. Briefing. The Chairman called attention to the fact that recent briefings did not follow the plan laid out in "Standing Operating Procedures", IAC-D-103/4. This was particularly true in that a large number of briefers attended the briefings, many of them not as participants. Mr. Gatewood reaffirmed the view that much was to be desired based on recent briefings, and the ATIC representative said that they had similar problems. The Chairman expressed the view that it was not essential to establish a rigid procedure at the present time, but that in the future the members should be aware of the problem and attempt to provide a mechanism whereby the requirements could be handled by a much more limited number. It was agreed that in cases where Subcommittee's had dealt with the proposal they would provide an easy mechanism for organizing a briefing.

5. Interpreters with US Delegations in the USSR. The Chairman called attention to the fact that the Soviets continually express the desire for including interpreters with their delegations even if it had to be on a reciprocal basis. The Committee agreed with the statement, but Air Force member said that this did not seem to be in the interest of the US from an intelligence viewpoint since Soviet interpreters would limit the take from Soviet delegations in the US much more than the take of US delegations to the USSR would be increased. The OSI observer also felt that the inclusion to the non-technical members might cause the Soviets to limit the itineraries available to US delegations. The AEC member called attention to the fact that Mr. Libby wanted to take an interpreter, and it was agreed that there would, in all probability, be occasions when exceptions would have to be made.

6. Anthropology. The Chairman pointed out that the whole area which would be covered by Dr. Rainey's group was in a significant closed area in the USSR. The Air Force member stated that he had asked that the Alaskan Command provide a list of areas of interest in the USSR and areas that could open in Alaska by 12 May. It was believed that this would provide sufficient time to make these details available Professor Rainey prior to the 19 May meeting. The Committee agreed that it would inform the Department that there was considerable net intelligence gain to the US, but that the Defense Department would have to rule on areas which could be made available in Alaska.

7. Gravimetry. The OSI observer relayed the unofficial view of the Chairman of the IGY Working Group, that the subject was a suitable one for a profitable exchange, since we know little about the Soviet

-3-

S-E-C-R-E-T

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activity. The feeling of the group was that; (a) the Soviets should not get too much opportunity to correlate gravimetric data, and (b) the part of the letter commenting on the line which could be established for measurements ~~and~~ should not be included. Further discussion developed the fact that the exchange could be valuable but raised some concern for the Soviet gain from having ready access to the Worden geodetic meter for an extended period of time. It was agreed that the IGY Working Group should be asked to consider this problem and to decide whether the exchange would be worthwhile if another measuring instrument had to be used. The ATIC representative was asked to obtain technical advice from Dr. Woollard, ATIC consultant, concerning the possible technical gain to the Soviets and methods for estalling this gain. When this information is available, the IGY Working Group will be asked to come up with a rapid answer. Mr. Gatewood stressed that the Department was under pressure to provide an answer. The ATIC representative thought that he could contact Dr. Woollard within a week.

8. Map. The Secretary tabled a map prepared by the Geographic Area, ORR, showing which areas in the USSR had been visited by US travelers exclusive of diplomatic personnel. It was stressed that the map was based on the incomplete information available and was prepared on the basis of a request by the State Department representative.

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-4-

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